

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2081

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SUBJ: RESULTS OF FINAL INDEPENDENCE TALKS

REF : PARAMARIBO 0229

1. GOS HAS EXPRESSED THROUGH LOCAL MEDIA COMPLETE SATISFACTION WITH OUTCOME FINAL TALKS WITH NETHERLANDS REGARDING TERMS OF INDEPENDENCE. RECENTLY CONCLUDED NEGOTIATIONS IN THE HAGUE ON DEVELOPMENT AID, ACCESS OF SURINAMERS TO HOLLAND, PORTRAYED IN PARLIAMENT AS VICTORY FOR MINPRES ARRON AND HIS GOVERNMENT.

2. AGREEMENT, EFFECTIVE ON DATE OF INDEPENDENCE (NOV. 25), ANNOUNCED AS PROVIDING NF 4.35 BILLION IN AID FUNDS OVER 10-15 YEAR PERIOD. FINE PRINT, HOWEVER, GIVES SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT PICTURE. BOTTOM LINE COMPOSED AS FOLLOWS:

A. NF2.7 BILLION - DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

B. NF0.3 BILLION - AVAILABLE IN MATCHING RPT MATCHING FUNDS
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IF DEVELOPMENT PLAN (JOINTLY AGREED) NOT

COMPLETED.

C. NF0.5 BILLION - THIRD PARTY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEES.
AVAILABLE "AS FAR AS NECESSARY."

D. NF0.35 BILLION - AID FUNDS PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED BUT UNUSED.

E. NF0.5 BILLION - REMISSION OF DEBT TO NETHERLANDS.

TOTAL NF4.3 BILLION

3. WHILE GRAND TOTAL APPEARS PARTLY MATTER OF OPTICS, FINAL AGREEMENT REPRESENTS EXPECTED DEPARTURE IN SURINAM'S FAVOR FROM ORIGINAL POSITIONS WHERE GOS DEMANDING NF 8 BILLION OVER 30 YEARS AND GON THINKING IN TERMS OF NF 2 BILLION OVER 15 YEARS. MOREOVER, AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR UNSTATED AMOUNT DUTCH AID AFTER TERM OF PRESENT ACCORD. HOWEVER, DUTCH SOURCE WHO PRESENT AT TALKS HAS TOLD ME GON DOUBTS IT WILL BE CALLED UPON TO SUPPLY B. OR C. FUNDS SINCE IT UNLIKELY GOS CAN COME UP WITH WORKED-OUT PROPOSALS IN TIME ALLOTTED. COMMENT: COULD BE GON PLANNING CERTAIN AMOUNT OF FOOT-DRAGGING UNDER COVER PROVISION IN AGREEMENT THAT GOS ANNUALLY PROPOSES PROJECTS WITHIN DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK, WHILE JOINT GOS-GON COMMITTEE DISPOSES. IF NO AGREEMENT ON PROPOSAL, TWO GOVERNMENTS NEGOTIATE. WHILE IT COULD BE ARGUED AGREEMENT MIGHT REDUCE PROBABLE DEMANDS ON BAUXITE COMPANIES FOR LEVY INCREASES NEXT FALL, IT MAY HAVE LONGER RANGE IMPLICATIONS IN THAT ACCORD PROVIDES IF GOS WERE TO DECIDE TO "SURINAMIZE INVESTMENTS" IT CAN REQUEST NECESSARY FINANCING FROM DEVELOPMENT AID FUNDS.

4. AGREEMENT DROPS EARLIER GON REQUIREMENT THAT CAPITAL GOODS FOR DEVELOPMENT BE OF DUTCH ORIGIN, SUBSTITUTES LOOSE STIPULATION THAT GOS WILL GIVE "AS MUCH PRIORITY AS POSSIBLE" TO DUTCH GOODS AND SERVICES.

5. FINAL HURDLE SURMOUNTED WAS AGREEMENT ON POST-INDEPENDENCE ENTRY OF SURINAMERS INTO HOLLAND, WHICH HAD TO BE NEGOTIATED IN BENELUX CONTEXT SINCE THE THREE COUNTRIES ARE BOUND BY COMMON IMMIGRATION POLICIES, AND RESIDENCE IN THE MOTHER COUNTRY. MAIN ENTRY PROVISIONS PERMIT ADMITTANCE TO BENELUX COUNTRIES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITHOUT VISA FOR THREE MONTHS WITH VALID PASSPORT, AND VICE VERSA. PERMISSION REQUIRED PRIOR ARRIVAL IF LONGER STAY DESIRED.

6. OF GREATER INTEREST TO ESTIMATED 100 THOUSAND SURINAMERS RESIDING IN HOLLAND, THE 500 CURRENTLY DEPARTING FOR HOLLAND EACH WEEK, AND THOSE INTENDING TO DO SO BEFORE AND AFTER INDEPENDENCE, IS DUTCH AGREEMENT TO PERMIT THOSE ALREADY ESTABLISHED TO REMAIN AND THOSE ARRIVING AFTER INDEPENDENCE

TO SETTLE FOR INITIAL 12 MONTHS' PERIOD IF THEY
HAVE JOB AND HOUSING GUARANTEED PRIOR ENTRY. FIVE YEAR EXTEN-
SIONS THEN AVAILABLE. BONA FIDE STUDENTS ALSO COVERED. EFFECT
OF THIS MAY BE UNWELCOME SPEED-UP OF ONGOING EXODUS TO HOLLAND
IN MONTHS REMAINING BEFORE INDEPENDENCE.

7. COPIES OF FINAL AGREEMENTS REACHED AT THE HAGUE AND ROUGH
TRANSLATIONS BEING POUCHED.
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